Approved For Release 2004/10/08 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100170049-7

OUTGOING MESSAGE

[redacted] 25X1

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

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CIA/OCI/WH12WH 741018

SOURCE REF:

25X1

ROUTING							
1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

25X [redacted]

25X1 ITEM NO: WH-F 16

DATE 15 OCT 74

SUBJECT: HONDURAN CABINET CRISIS AND RUMORS OF CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT

[redacted]

25X1 [redacted] THE CURRENT CABINET CRISIS IS GENERATING SPECULATION THAT CHIEF OF STATE LOPEZ MAY BE REPLACED, PERHAPS BY A MILITARY-CIVILIAN HJUNTA, IS IN LINE WITH [redacted] EARLIER [redacted] ASSESSMENT.

FOREIGN MINISTER BATRES, HAVING PATIENTLY HAMMERED OUT WITH [redacted] HIS SALVADORAN COUNTERPART A PROPOSAL FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF THE DISPUTED PORTION OF THEIR COMMON BORDER, RESIGNED WHEN LOPEZ AND A MAJORITY OF CABINET MEMBERS REJECTED THE PROPOSAL. AT LEAST TWO OTHER IMPORTANT MEMBERS OF THE CABINET RESIGNED IN SUPPORT OF BATRES.

THE LOSS OF SOME OF HIS MOST ABLE MINISTERS AT A TIME WHEN

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

[redacted] 25X1

CLASSIFICATION

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FORM 1-74 4C USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

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25X1

HONDURAS NEEDS THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF ITS BEST PEOPLE PRESENTS LOPEZ WITH THE MOST SERIOUS CHALLENGE YET TO HIS ABILITY TO GOVERN LOPEZ HAS NEVER BEEN KNOWN FOR DECISIVE LEADERSHIP, BUT THIS FLAW HAS BEEN DISGUISED DURING HIS PRESENT TENURE BY THE SELECTION OF A COMPETENT CABINET.

THE RESIGNATIONS HAVE CAUSED THOSE WHO FAVOR A CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP TO RENEW PRESSURE ON THE MILITARY TO REMOVE LOPEZ. THE MOST FREQUENTLY DISCUSSED REPLACEMENT FOR LOPEZ IS A THREE-MAN JUNTA COMPOSED OF BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN MEMBERS ALL OF WHOM WOULD BE MODERATELY CONSERVATIVE. THE PRESENT CRISIS SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASES THE CHANCES THAT LOPEZ WILL BE EASED ASIDE OR PURSUADED TO RESIGN. EZ IMPDET.H

25X1

[redacted]

SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: WH DIV, NIO

4
3
2 25X1
1

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25X1

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